



## **Procedure: Introduction to Nutrition Services**

Volume: Nutrition Services/Breastfeeding

Section: Services Overview/Staffing

Citation: 246.11; P.L.103 448

Approval Date: 11.2012

Revised Date:

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### ***Purpose***

Summarize determination of nutritional risk in determining eligibility to the WIC Program.

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### ***Eligibility Criteria***

To be certified as eligible for the WIC Program in Nebraska, an applicant must meet each of the following criteria: (See Volume I, Section A for more information)

- Be a pregnant woman, breastfeeding woman, postpartum woman, infant, or child under the age of 5 years;
  - Reside in the state of Nebraska;
  - Have a household income at or below 185% of the federal poverty guidelines; and
  - Be determined at nutritional risk.
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### ***Nutritional Risk Determination***

In determining nutritional risk, at every certification or recertification visit, a WIC competent professional authority (CPA) performs a nutritional assessment including:

- Measure length/height and weight. Length/Height and Weight are plotted on the appropriate growth chart for infants or children. Pregnant women are plotted on the Prenatal Weight Gain Grid.
- Hematological test for anemia; Hemoglobin
- Completing the appropriate Assessment/Care Plan to identify the presence of nutritional risk condition.
- Completing the appropriate Diet Survey Form
- Assigning nutritional risk criteria that correspond to identified conditions and documenting in the WIC System.

Nutrition risk may be determined based on medical referral data when appropriate.

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### ***Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women***

A pregnant woman who meets income eligibility standards may be certified as presumptively eligible without an evaluation of nutritional risk.

- A presumptively eligible pregnant woman may be enrolled for no more than 60 days in the absence nutritional risk assessment.

It is recommended the assessment be completed in 30 days, but required by the end of 60 days.

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